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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/542,011	07/12/2005	Hisamitsu Ishihara	113197-045	8933
24573 7590 01/05/2007 BELL, BOYD & LLOYD, LLC 70 W. MADISON SUITE 3100 CHICAGO, IL 60602			EXAMINER CHOI, STEPHEN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3724	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/05/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/542,011

Applicant(s)

ISHIHARA, HISAMITSU

Examiner

Stephen Choi

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 July 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 8/4/05.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it appears to exceed 150 words. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).
2. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 5 and 8 are objected to because of the following informalities: In claim 5, "the displacement restricting member" lacks positive antecedent basis. It appears that claim 5 was intended to depend on claim 3. Thus, it is assumed that claim 5 depends on claim 3 for this office action only. In claim 8, the use of the phrase "can be" should be avoided since it is confusing whether the recitations following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

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The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 2 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 2, the addition of the word "type" to an otherwise definite expression extends the scope of the expression so as to render it indefinite.

In claim 6, it is insufficiently clear what structure is set forth by "the second cutter is installed so that a load acts toward the first cutter when a film is cut".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-2 and 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 2002-211833 (hereafter '833) in view of JP 5146991 (hereafter '991).

'833 discloses the invention substantially as claimed except for blade edges gradually engaging with each other. '991 discloses blade edges gradually engaging with each other. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of '833 to provide the blade edges progressively engaging each other as taught by '991 in order to facilitate cutting of the workpiece. Regarding claim 7, e.g., via 80a of

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'833. Regarding claims 8-9, the modified device of '883 fails to disclose an adjustable integrated cutter unit. However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide an adjustable integrated cutter unit on the modified device of '833 since the examiner takes Official Notice on the use of integrated cutter unit as old and well known in the art for the purpose of adjusting a cutting assembly relative to another assembly of a system. JP 04-060696 and JP 3184797 show examples of such a unit.

8. Claims 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over '833 in view of '991 as applied to claims 1-2 above, and further in view of De Torre (US 2003/0079593).

The modified device of '833 discloses the invention substantially as claimed except for a displacement restricting member provided in a central area and in contact with a flank relief. De Torre teaches a displacement restricting member (e.g., 22) in contact with a flank relief (e.g., at 18). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ a blade with a flank relief wherein a displacement restricting member in contact with the flank relief as taught by De Torre on the modified device of '833 in order to reduce stresses to reduce and to preserve cutting forces.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Hornung, JP 61230826, and EP 1197305 are cited to show related devices.

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10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen Choi whose telephone number is 571-272-4504. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer D. Ashley can be reached on 571-272-4502. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

sc
23 December 2006


STEPHEN CHOI
PRIMARY EXAMINER